

FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
294 WASHINGTON STREET, BOSTON, MA 02108

AREA	FORM NO. 544
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City Lexington  
Address 48 Pleasant Street  
Historic Name Edmund Munroe Brown House

Present residential  
Original residential

DESCRIPTION:

Date c. 1830-1850

Source map research

Style Greek Revival

Architect \_\_\_\_\_

Exterior wall fabric clapboards

Outbuildings barn

Major alterations (with dates) cell

raised to a two full stories (early 1970s)

Moved yes Date c. 1935

Approx. acreage 17876 ft.<sup>2</sup>

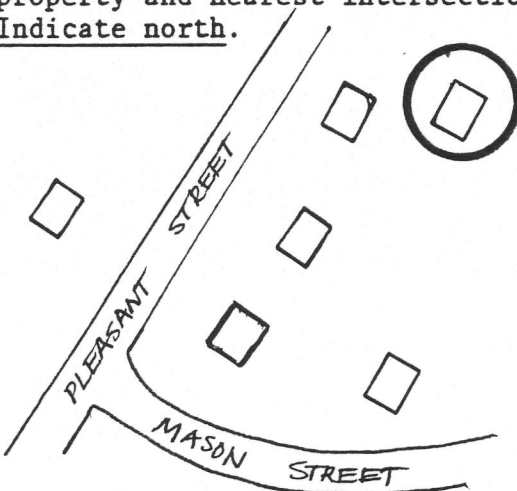
Setting Set back from street behind

another house adjacent to cultivated

fields of Wilson's Farm.

SKETCH MAP

Show property's location in relation to nearest cross streets and/or geographical features. Indicate all buildings between inventoried property and nearest intersection. Indicate north.



Recorded by Anne Grady

Organization Lexington Historical Commission

Date April, 1984

(Staple additional sheets here)

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE (Describe important architectural features and evaluate in terms of other buildings within the community.)

This is one of the most modest farm cottages to survive as a residence in Lexington. Constructed like the more substantial Federal/Greek Revival Vernacular houses which dot East Lexington with small stair hall at the front entrance, chimneys at the rear of right and left hand rooms, and roof construction of principal rafters nailed to a one-foot by six-foot board at the ridge, this house is distinguished from the others by its modest scale and less-than-two story height. The current owners have opened up the interior of the house and remodeled it in a contemporary manner.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE (Explain the role owners played in local or state history and how the building relates to the development of the community.)

According to the maps, the house was built between 1830 and 1853. It was occupied in 1853 by Edmund Munroe Brown, grandson of Francis Brown who kept a tavern nearby at 620 Massachusetts Avenue in the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. By 1875 John Irwin, a farmer, lived here. By 1898 the house was part of the dairy farm of Sidney Myron Lawrence, who built the house adjacent at 52 Pleasant Street in the 1890s. At some point, this house was moved to the rear of the lot. The current house on the front of the lot (50 Pleasant Street) was constructed c. 1934 for a daughter of the farm's owner. The barn of the Lawrence farm now belongs to the owners of 48 Pleasant Street. It was built c. 1905 as a "Grade A" dairy barn and included such features as a manure track. It replaced an earlier barn on the site, and was converted to a garage in the 1950s.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES (name of publication, author, date and publisher)

Hudson, Charles. History of the Town of Lexington, revised and continued to 1921 by the Lexington Historical Society, Volume II, pp. 66, 69. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company, 1913.

Personal communication from John Shanahan.

1830 map

1853 map

1875 atlas

1887 Directory

1889 atlas

1894 Directory

1898 atlas

1899 Directory

1906 atlas

1906 Directory

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community:

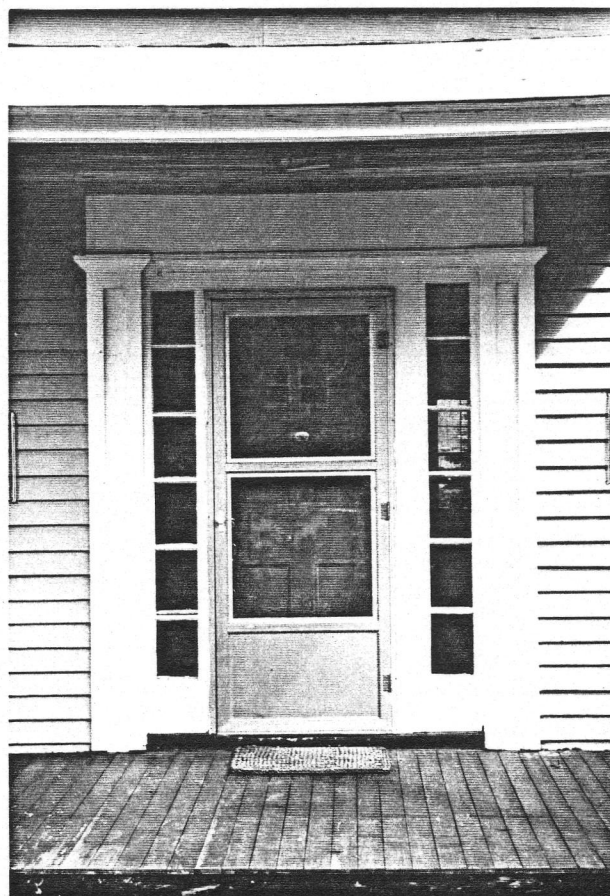
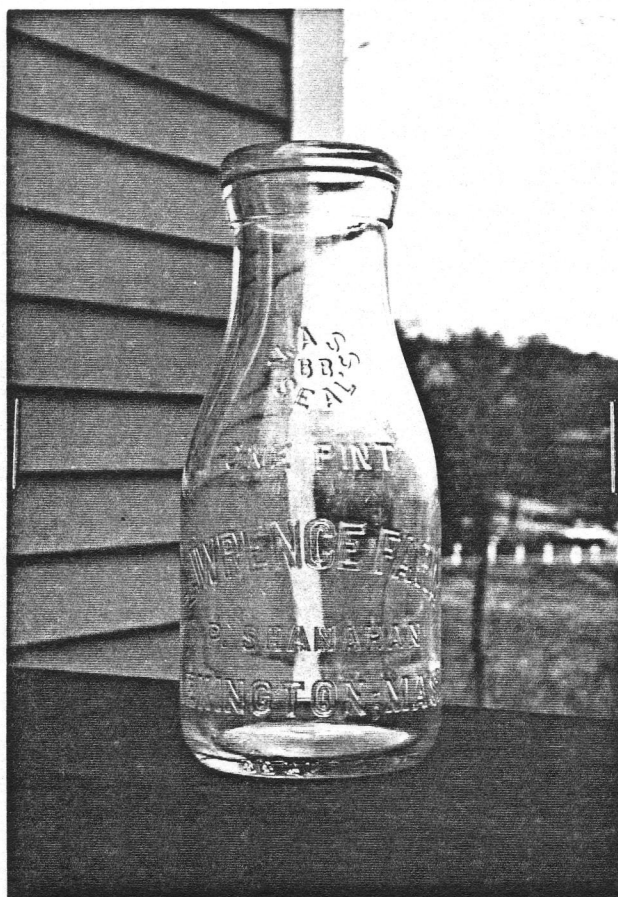
Lexington

Form No:

544

Property Name: 48 Pleasant Street

Indicate each item on inventory form which is being continued below.



Staple to Inventory form at bottom